



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 26, 2021

CONTACT:

Mayor's Press Office

312.744.3334

press@cityofchicago.org

Department of Planning and Development
(DPD) 312.744.9267

Neighborhood Opportunity Fund Grant Will Enable New City Design Company Expansion

A New City design studio will double the size of its design and production space through a \$1.67 million Neighborhood Opportunity Fund grant approved by City Council today.

Bridgewater Studios and South Oakley Ventures LLCs will use the grant to rehabilitate a 50,000-square-foot building at 4834 S. Oakley Ave. for offices and fabrication space. The approximately \$2.85 million project will include timber truss repairs, asbestos removal, tuckpointing, window replacement, HVAC upgrades, landscaping, and fence repair.

The company plans to add up to 20 new, permanent jobs at the location, in addition to maintaining an approximately 50-person facility at 1719 W. 35th St.

Up to \$250,000 of the grant will be allocated as a local hiring bonus.

Bridgewater Studios has worked with the Shedd Aquarium, the Museum of Science and Industry, the film and television industry, and other clients. The company also trains, and hires disadvantaged and unemployed people through the Jane Adams Resource Center, the Greater West Town Training Program, and other partners.

###

Childhood Learning Center Approved for Former Calumet Heights Public School

Calumet Height's vacant Kate S. Buckingham School will be revitalized as a youth learning center through a land transfer approved by City Council today.



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



The one-story Board of Education property at 9207 S. Phillips Ave. will be transferred to the City and sold for \$1 to Chicago Youth Centers, which has operated a network of citywide learning programs for nearly 65 years.

The \$5.2 million project will focus on early learning programs, afterschool and summer enrichment activities, and family and community support services. The proposed project will include six classroom spaces, a state-of-the-art technology hub, a multi-purpose recreational room for community uses, a family support center, offices, a kitchen, and ADA-compliant restrooms.

Exterior improvements will include new playgrounds, bike racks, landscaping, lighting, signage, and ADA-compliant sidewalks and entryways.

###

Council Confirms Landmark Status for North Lawndale Church

North Lawndale's Pentecostal Church of Holiness was approved as an official City of Chicago landmark by City Council today, becoming the fifth designation within the community.

Located at 4208 W. 15th St. and originally named Our Lady of Lourdes Church, the Romanesque Revival-style building was designed by architect Louis Guenzel in 1932 for a predominantly Czech-speaking parish.

Over the ensuing decades, Our Lady of Lourdes became a predominantly African American parish. In 2006, the building was sold and operated as a Baptist church. In 2016, it was purchased by the Pentecostal Church of Holiness led by Pastor Dr. Chaun L. Johnson.

Today, the church is committed to serving local residents and strengthening the neighborhood.

The designation will protect the building's exterior elevations and adjacent rectory from demolition or significant alteration.

North Lawndale's other official landmarks include Stone Temple Baptist Church, the Jewish People's Institute, the Five Houses on Avers District, and the Sears Roebuck and Co. District.

###



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

